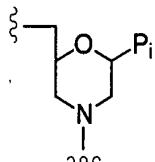


Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An antisense compound having an uncharged morpholino backbone and a ~~the base sequence presented as SEQ ID NO: 35 between 12 and 25 nucleotide bases in length which is complementary to a target region of a preprocessed mRNA coding for a human p53 protein,~~

~~where the 5' end of the target region is 1-25 bases downstream of a normal splice acceptor site in said preprocessed mRNA.~~

2. (Currently amended) The compound of claim 1, wherein said backbone comprises morpholino subunits, as shown in the structure below,



where P_i is a purine or pyrimidine base-pairing moiety effective to bind to a base in a polynucleotide, and

uncharged phosphorus-containing linkages, one to three atoms long, joining the morpholino nitrogen of one subunit to the 5' exocyclic carbon of an adjacent subunit.

3. (Currently amended) The compound of claim 2, wherein ~~the~~ each said phosphorus-containing linkage is a phosphorodiamidate linkage as represented by $-P(=Z)(X)-Y-$, where $X=NH_2$, NHR , or NRR' , $Y=O$, and $Z=O$, or where $X=OR$, $Y=NH$ or NR' , and $Z=O$, and R and R' are groups which do not interfere with target binding.

4. (Original) The compound of claim 3, wherein R and R' are moieties independently selected from alkyl, polyalkyleneoxy, and a combination thereof, which may be substituted with one or more groups selected from hydroxy, alkoxy, amino, alkylamino, thiol, alkanethiol, halogen, oxo, carboxylic acid, carboxylic ester, and inorganic ester.

5. (Original) The compound of claim 4, wherein each said moiety R and R', independent of substitution, is from 1 to 6 atoms long.
6. (Original) The compound of claim 3, wherein NRR' represents a nitrogen heterocycle having 5-7 ring atoms selected from nitrogen, carbon, oxygen, and sulfur, and having at least as many carbon ring atoms as non-carbon ring atoms.
7. (Cancelled)
- 8-17. (Withdrawn)
18. (Cancelled)
- 19-22. (Withdrawn)
- 23-33. (Cancelled)
- 34-37. (Withdrawn)
38. (Cancelled)